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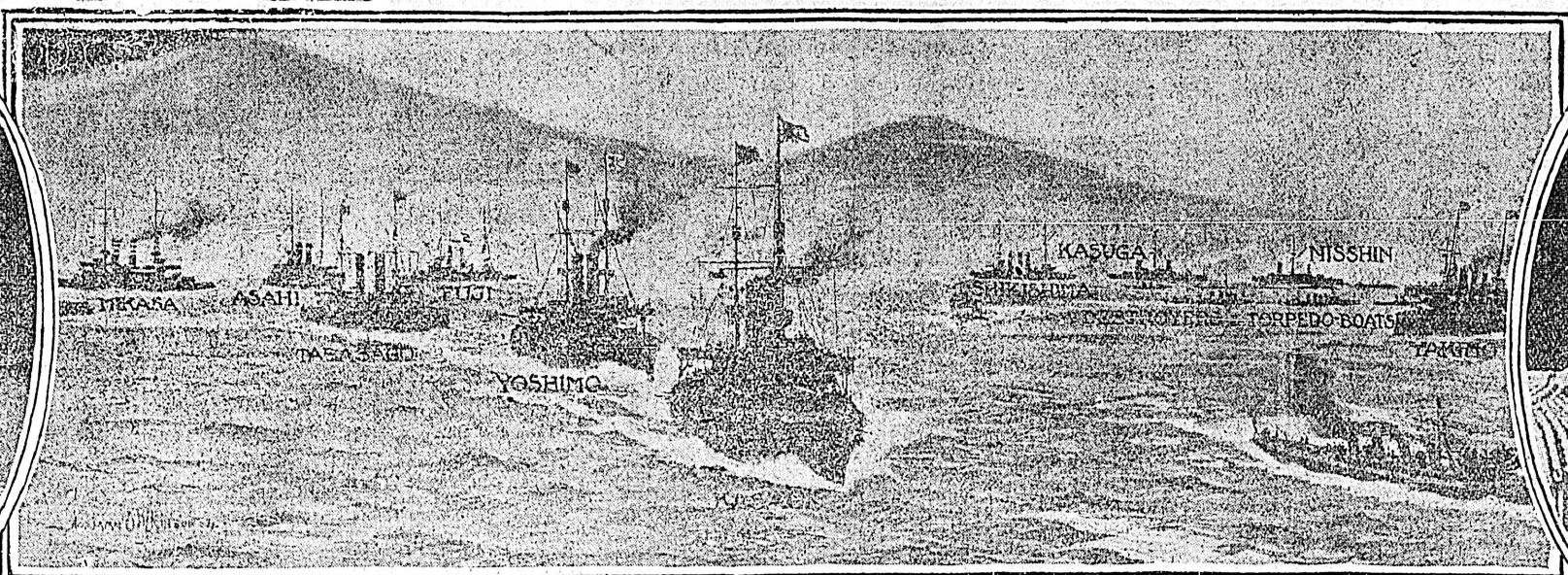
VOL. XCIII. NO. 140

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, MONDAY MAY, 29, 1905.

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR.



VICE ADMIRAL TOGO



THE JAPANESE FLEET



ADMIRAL ROJESTVENSKY

WANTON DESTRUCTION OF STRUGGLING INDUSTRY

As Result of Recent "Freak" Legislation Western
Fuel Company Decide to close Down Mines
Until Hawthornthwaite and Fellow Social-
ists Come to Their Senses and Amend Law

Nanaimo, May 28.—As a result of the decision of the mass meeting of underground employees of the Western Fuel Company in No. 1 mine on Saturday night, it was rumored on the street that the company would have a notice on the pithead tomorrow notifying the men to take their tools out as the mine would not open after Tuesday. Upon being interviewed tonight, Mr. Stockett confirmed this report, saying that the company had made every effort to adjust the difficulty, and as the miners had refused to agree to either proposal, the company had no recourse but to close the mine, according to President Howard's statement, which he gave out last week. This means that the rails will be drawn and the pumps taken out, the fan stopped and all underground work abandoned until the eight-hour law has either been repealed or amended.

GREAT EXCITEMENT IN SHANGHAI

All Foreign Warships in Port
Clear for Action on Hear-
ing of Battle.

St. Petersburg, May 29.—The St. Petersburg telegraph agency publishes the following from Shanghai, under date of May 28: "From all quarters telegrams are arriving here announcing that a naval battle is in progress between the Russian and Japanese fleets. No details are given, but the tone of telegrams from Chefoo is favorable to the Russians. The telegrams say that the Vladivostok squadron participated in the engagements. 'An English firm in Shanghai has received a telegram from Tokyo to the effect that the Japanese have been victorious, but nobody here believes it. 'There is the greatest excitement in Shanghai. All the warships in the harbor have cleared for action. 'The cable to Woussung has been interrupted since yesterday, but the cause is unknown. 'Numerous merchantmen have postponed their departure pending the receipt of further news."

FORCING PASSAGE OF THE STRAITS

Russian Advance Hld by Fog
Which Clearing Revealed
Fleet to Japs.

London, May 29.—The Times' Tokyo correspondent says that the telegrams, from apparently trustworthy sources, show that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky approached Tsu island in the forenoon of May 27, during a fog, which cleared up in the afternoon, when the Russians were sighted by the Japanese. The battle commenced between 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. There was a strong breeze blowing with a high sea. A despatch to the Times says that a private telegram from Chefoo, probably from Russian sources, reports that Rojestvensky began to force a passage of the Korean straits Saturday night without lights, in two lines, on each side of the Tsu islands. Heavy firing is said to have been heard in the straits between 9:30 and 10:30 o'clock at night; when it ceased. The same despatch says one of Rojestvensky's ships returned to Kiachou Friday night, having been badly damaged by a collision with another ship.

Summary of News Relating To the Great Naval Battle

(By Associated Press.)

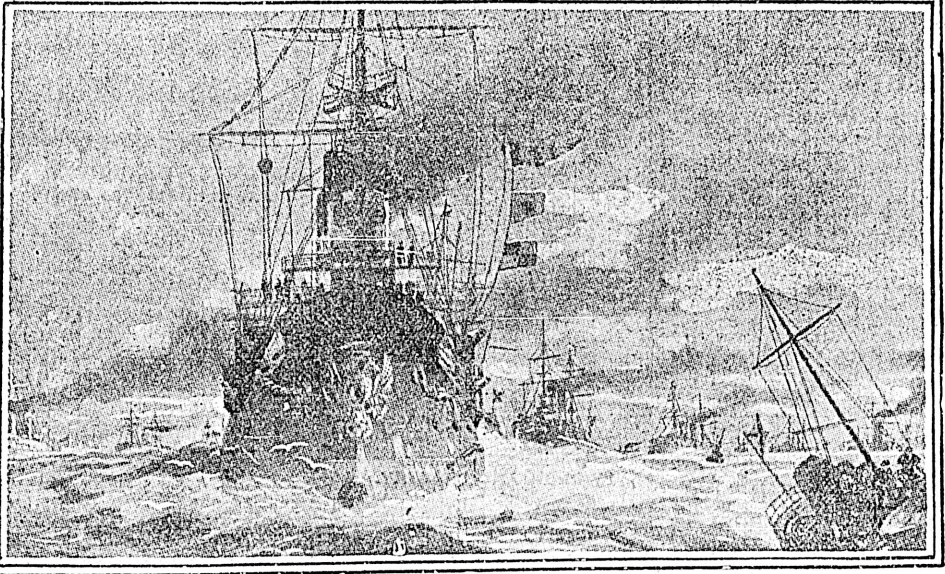
According to the latest information, the battle between the Russian naval forces and the Japanese fleet for the supremacy of the Oriental seas, on which hangs the outcome of the Far Eastern struggle, has begun, if it has not terminated decisively. All the despatches received by the Associated Press point to a Japanese victory, though it is not yet known whether the full force of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's fighting ships took part in the contest, which, according to the despatches, took place in the comparatively narrow waters of the Straits of Korea.

The first information came in a despatch from the American consul at Nagasaki to the state department at Washington, telling that the Japanese had sunk one Russian battleship, four other warships and a repair ship in the Korean straits, and this was followed by a despatch received by the state department, the date of which was not given, that the Japanese government had made the announcement that its fleet had engaged the Russians in the Korean straits on Sunday and had held them.

The state department also received information that the two vessels reported to have been sunk were the sister battleships Orel and Borodino, and three other ships were cruisers. From Tientsin, the German port on the Shanghai peninsula, came a report that a running naval engagement took place near the island of Oki, in the sea of Japan, two hundred miles north of the straits of Korea, and that the whole Russian fleet did not participate, the slower vessels being sent around Japan.

Russian sources give no news of the battle, while the Japanese, as is customary, give no information as to the battle or its outcome.

Paris, May 29, 4:55 a. m.—Late editions of the morning papers here express the fear that the Russians have met defeat in the naval battle. The Matin, remarking that the despatches from Washington are far from reassuring, recalls the words of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky when he entered Far Eastern waters: "If I am victorious I shall inform you; if I am vanquished, Togo will inform you."



THE RUSSIAN BALTIC FLEET

RUSSIAN FLEET DISPERSED

LONDON, May 29.—The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Mail says that the Russian fleet has been dispersed; that several Russian ships have been disabled and that the remainder are in flight with Japs pursuing

WASHINGTON MAY 28.—The American consul at Nagasaki cables the state department the Japanese have sunk one Russian battleship, four other warships and a repair ship in the straits of Korea. The following is the text of the Nagasaki despatch to the state department.

NAGASAKI May 28—"Japanese sank the Russian battleship Borodino and four more warships and a repair ship," the other despatch reads:

TOKIO May 27—"The Japanese fleet engaged the the Baltic Squadron this afternoon in the straits of Tsushima, which is held."

St. Petersburg, May 29, 2:15 a. m.—In this momentous hour the Emperor, the admiralty and the Russian public are awaiting breathlessly for the Japanese to furnish authentic news of the fate of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky and his fleet, in which the hopes of the Russians are centered. The official position is to construe Tokyo's silence favorably, but at the same time the strategic reason for such silence is recognized. The public, after the premature jubilation of Saturday, is inclined to reverse its attitude and become pessimistic.

The report sent to Washington by the American consul at Nagasaki of the sinking of five Russian warships, including a battleship and repair ship, was accepted as the most definite and the most authentic piece of news received up to midnight, and undoubtedly produced a bad impression. The fear was expressed that the battleship sunk might have been Rojestvensky's flagship, the Kniaz Suvaroff, on which the Japanese would undoubtedly concentrate their fire. The sinking of the repair ship Kamchatka, which was filled with the most modern machinery, might, it was thought, prove later to be a more severe loss than that of a warship, but at the admiralty, where crowds congregated on Sunday afternoon and evening, the opinion was expressed that if Rojestvensky had cleared the gate to the Sea of Japan with no greater loss than that reported by the American consul, the passage

was not dearly purchased, especially if later reports should prove that the Japanese losses were anything like equal proportions. Probably no one in Russia displayed such intense anxiety as the Emperor. Early Sunday morning he summoned Grand Duke Alexis, high admiral; Admiral Avellan, head of the Russian admiralty department, and Admiral Wrenius, chief of the general staff of the navy to Tsarskoe Selo, and remain-

Russians Flee Northward

London, May 28.—The correspondent of the Morning Post at Shanghai says that a telegram has been received there from Peking announcing that Rojestvensky's fleet has been defeated off the Tsu islands and is now fleeing northward, and that four Russian ships, including the Borodino, have been sunk.

The only news received by His Majesty from Russian sources was contained in despatches from Russian agents, who could give nothing but rumors. The only time the Emperor left the members of his cabinet was to attend service in the chapel of the Alexandra palace, when the chaplain prayed for Rojestvensky's success.

News Distresses Emperor.

The Emperor was greatly distressed when the Washington despatch containing the information sent by the consul at Nagasaki arrived. The newspaper despatches naturally created the widest speculation. Some of the officers of the admiralty who on Saturday were inclined to take the view that the ships off Woussung were empty collars sent to the rear to avoid hampering the warships unnecessarily, or that it is a division of little fighting value despatched to confuse Togo and keep him off the scent, thought on Sunday it was possible Rojestvensky might after all have divided his fleet and that the Japanese were waiting the arrival of the Russian division before making a general announcement. A majority of the naval authorities, however, believe

that Rojestvensky could not risk a division of his fighting ships. Those of an optimistic mind think that Rojestvensky threw Togo off the scent and escaped him, as the French did Nelson on the way to Egypt, and encountered only torpedo boats in the straits. This opinion, however, is not generally held and the great majority think that Togo's ships were able to keep in touch and that the Japanese lay in wait for Rojestvensky in the narrow waters where a battle is reported to have taken place.

Admiralty Not Satisfied.

Nevertheless nobody believes that Togo offered open battle, the consensus of opinion being that the Japanese, favored by a stage of the moon, which was at three-quarters full, waited and delivered a series of torpedo attacks Saturday night, with such aid as their heavy ships could offer without running too much risk. Mines may have played an important part, and perhaps been responsible for a large share of the losses reported. At any rate the result is not fully satisfactory to the naval authorities.

It is possible that a running fight at long range took place Sunday, from which better results are anticipated, as the naval authorities do not think that torpedoing could be renewed on Sunday in the open sea.

The cruisers Gromoboi and Rossia, of the Vladivostok squadron, probably have sailed south to afford Rojestvensky any assistance in their power. If Rojestvensky got clear of the straits Sunday night, he should be close enough to Vladivostok to communicate.

THE BATTLE GROUND.

The Straits of Korea, where the naval engagement took place, is situated between the southern island of Japan and Korea. The island of Tsushima (Tsu Island) is almost midway between

"BATTLE OF THE MOST VIOLENT CHARACTER."

French Paper Describes Contest in Korea Straits
and States That Both Sides Have Suffered
Serious Losses.—Tokio Still Refuses to Give
Up the News.—Intense Interest in Paris

St. Petersburg, May 28.—A despatch to a news agency from Chefoo says that private advices have been received by the Japanese consul there stating that the main portion of the Russian Baltic fleet engaged the Japanese squadron in the Straits of Korea last night.

Tokio, May 28, 7:45 p. m.—Absolutely no news concerning the operations of the Japanese and Russian fleets was obtainable here today. The newspapers are held under absolute leash and all telegraphs and cables are closed to press despatches.

Washington, May 28.—From information which has been received in Washington today, it is believed that two of the Russian ships reported to have been sunk in the Korean straits by the Japanese are the Orel and her sister ship, the Borodino. They are battleships or 12,000 tons. Three other vessels reported sunk are believed to have been cruisers, the remaining one being a repair ship.

Chefoo, May 28.—(Noon.)—Private telegrams from Korea to the Japanese consul here state that a battle was progressing yesterday afternoon at or near the Korean straits, between the main portion of the Russian squadron and the Japanese fleet, under command of Admiral Togo.

Telegrams almost identical with the above have been received and announce that a large portion of the Russian fleet was sighted approaching the Korean straits Saturday, headed for the channel between Tsu Island and the Japanese coast.

According to the best information received here recently, the main portion of Admiral Togo's fleet has been almost constantly at Masampho bay. Advices from a reliable quarter received here are to the effect that three Russian

battleships, three armored cruisers and several colliers were off Shanghai Friday. It is believed that Vice Admiral Rojestvensky sent sufficient ships to the vicinity of Shanghai in order to induce the belief that his main fleet was there, while the major portion of it pushed on toward the Korean straits.

Several Russian colliers were at Shanghai at 9 o'clock Saturday night. Private telegrams received here from Shanghai say that as fast as the cargoes of the colliers are consumed the vessels were dismissed by Rojestvensky and returned to Europe.

Paris, May 28.—Intense interest has been aroused here by the news that a naval battle has been fought between the Russian and Japanese fleets. Official and diplomatic quarters are without advices, most of the information reaching Paris coming through the Associated Press despatches forwarded from the United States. These despatches are prominently displayed in the evening editions of the newspapers and are eagerly commented on.

The Temps reproduces a despatch from Rome saying that the Italian minister of marine, Admiral Mirabello, has received a telegram from Chefoo giving a rumor that a battle of the most violent character has been fought, in which both combatants suffered serious losses. All the newspapers display a tone of extreme anxiety over the result.

The Temps pays a glowing tribute to Admiral Rojestvensky's skill in preparing his squadron for the final encounter and to his audacity in taking the route where the Japanese were strongest. The Echo de Paris' St. Petersburg correspondent says that a letter has been received from Admiral Rojestvensky, written six weeks ago, in which the admiral said he desired to reach Vladivostok without a combat, if possible, but that he would do nothing to avoid an encounter.

Washington, May 28.—A despatch was received at the American state department today saying that the Japanese government had made the announcement that its fleet had engaged the Russians in the Straits of Korea Saturday and had held them. The reported sinking of the battleships Orel and Borodino is mentioned in a despatch received at the state department today from the consul at Nagasaki.

The belief in naval circles in Washington is that the Japanese resorted to a free use of their torpedo boats in their attacks on the vessels of Vice Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet. The Japanese have a large number of torpedo boats in their fleet and they demonstrated their effectiveness in the operations around Port Arthur. Naval officials here tonight express the opinion that it was unlikely that such serious losses as those reported could have been inflicted by ordinary gun fire.

The Orel and Borodino, battleships reported sunk in the naval engagement in the Straits of Korea, were among the newest vessels of the fleet of Rojestvensky. The Borodino was four years old, being launched at Kronstadt in 1901, and the Orel was launched a year later, in 1902. The warships were alike in every particular, built after the same model. Each was heavily armored with plates almost a foot in thickness—11.6 inches to be exact. They were vessels of 13,516 tons displacement, each with a nominal speed of eighteen knots.

Sixteen large guns, besides the secondary and minor armament, were mounted on both the Orel and Borodino. Each of the battleships carried four 12-inch guns and twelve 6-inch guns. The loss of these two ships, which were of the best of the fleet, will leave the Russian admiral with but two battleships built since 1898, the flagship Kniaz Suvaroff and the Alexander III, both of which are of the same model and tonnage, and have similar armament to the Orel and Borodino.

Both of the lost battleships measured 397 feet by 76 feet, with a draught of 26 feet. They had a lofty spar deck fully 30 feet above the water line, extending from the bow to the quarter deck. The heavy guns were in pairs fore and aft. Forward was mounted a pair of 12-inch guns in a turret, which was protected by eleven inches of armor, and another pair of heavy guns of similar size, protected in the same manner as those forward, were mounted aft. There were 30 other guns of the intermediate battery, and each of the two vessels carried two submerged torpedo tubes and two above water. A special feature of the battleships was their vertical longitudinal bulkheads, with 11-inch armor running throughout the whole length of the ship at a distance of nine or ten feet from the ships' sides, designed to localize the effect of a blow from a torpedo boat.

(Continued on Page Two.)

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LOCAL NEWS.

Ministerial Association—Tomorrow in the Y. M. C. A. parlors a special meeting of the Ministerial Association will be held. This will be the last meeting at which Rev. J. P. Westman will officiate as president, and a full attendance of members is desired.

Phrenological Society—A meeting of the above Phrenological Society will be held tomorrow evening at the Y. M. C. A. rooms at 8 o'clock sharp. Mr. W. H. Pennecook will give a lecture on the "Reflexives or Reasoning Faculties," to be illustrated by practical delineations taken from life. All ladies and gentlemen interested are cordially invited to attend.

"King's Daughters"—The fifth annual convention of the British Columbia branch of the order of the King's Daughters will be held in the lecture room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church on June 1, 2 and 3. The sessions are from 10 to 12 and 2 to 5 daily. In connection with the convention Mrs. G. H. Barnard of Belcher street has very kindly consented to hold a reception at her home on Wednesday evening next. No formal invitations are being issued, but all members of the order are in this informal way asked to be present and are assured of a hearty welcome.

"Lovely Hats" in soft and stiff shapes; left from last season, reduced to half price. B. Williams & Co.

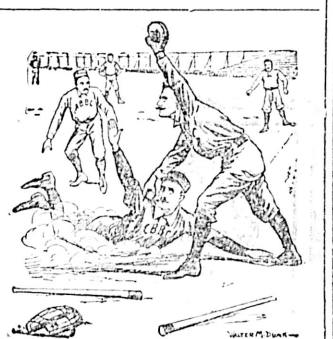
Excursion SS. Iroquois Sunday 25th. A summer outing on summer seas; train leaves V. & S. R. 9:45 a. m.

Stiff and Soft Front Outing and Regatta Shirts at 75c. \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50. B. Williams & Co.

291 Prizes—The oldest, largest and most reliable sweep in B. C. is to be held at the Strand Hotel, Vancouver. Tickets on sale at Morris' cigar store, \$1.00 each. 291 prizes; limit, \$10,000.

Try Dean & Hiscocks' Marvellous Rheumatic Liment.

A first-class Family Cow for sale; Holstein-Alderney. Leaving premises reason for selling. Guaranteed satisfactory in every respect. Can be seen and milked. Enquire Fleming Bros., 50½ Government street.



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We repair watches; no matter what the ailment may be, we have the ability to put it right. American, English or Swiss watches are all the same to us—none too difficult. The durability of watch repair depends largely upon the quality of material used. We use only first grade and guarantee all main springs for twelve months. In case of breakage we cheerfully replace them free of charge.

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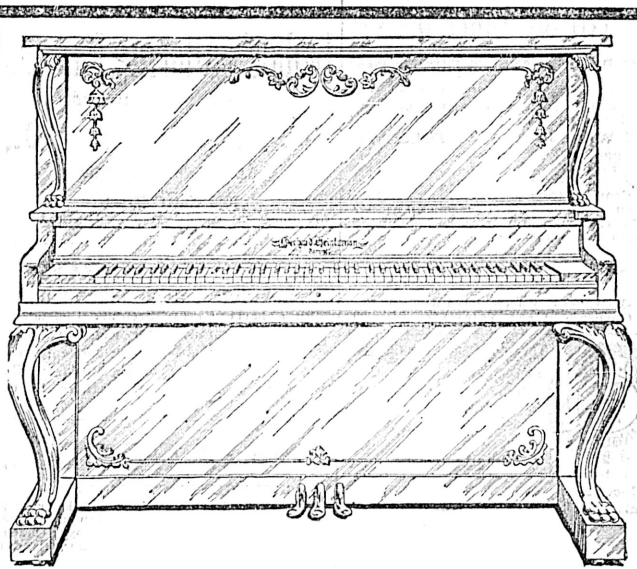
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CLEAVER'S SOAP.....

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Has many imitators but no equals.
Prices \$375, \$400, \$425, \$450 and up.
Easy terms to suit purchaser. . . .
See the new Louis XV. Art Cases.

FLETCHER BROS.

93 GOVERNMENT STREET.

Regimental Parade—Lt. Col. Hall, commanding the Fifth Regiment, has called a parade of No. 5 company for Wednesday evening next. Owing to the fact that there was a very poor turnout of this company for the 24th of May, the colonel intends asking for an explanation and demanding a readier compliance with orders.

"That time is lost which might be better employed." If you are "too busy" to read the want ads, you will lose a great deal of time over the little problems which they would solve for you.

Typewriter Repairs.—We are the people. We have now engaged an expert for this kind of work and undertake to put in good condition any make of typewriter. Victoria Book and Stationery Co.

Sunday, May 28, the SS. Iroquois will resume her excursion trips among the beautiful Gulf Islands.

SMOKE Mainland and British Lion CIGARS

Don't take anything just as good. Avoid everything better. The Mainland and British Lion Cigars are honest goods, and cost from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per thousand more than any 10c Domestic Cigar on the market.

Now are You on?

Union Methodist Picnic.—The committee of the several local Sunday schools appointed a fortnight or more ago to arrange for the annual picnic, which has become an historic local fixture of Dominion Day, have decided to hold the outing this year, as in former years, at Langford Plains. The E. & N. Railway Company will provide a special service to accommodate the holiday-makers.

Sale of Country Seat.—The beautiful country seat and home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vernon, near Duncan, known as Tzouhalim, has been sold by the representatives of the Keating estate, to whom it belonged. Situated about four miles from Duncan and one mile from Cowichan bay, it was an ideal spot for shooting and fishing, and Mr. Vernon was always happy to give distinguished visitors to Victoria a chance for good sport.

Camp Arrangements—Lt. Col. Hall, commanding the Fifth Regiment, has received instructions to go into camp on June 11, directing also that the militia shall remain under arms until the 25th of the same month. On the day of the soldiers' return from camp the Sixth Regiment of Vancouver will arrive from the Terminal City. On the following morning the Fifth Regiment will assemble at the drill and preparatory to marching out to some convenient spot, where the annual sham battle will be decided.

St. Barnabas' Picnic.—An enjoyable afternoon is arranged in connection with the St. Barnabas' parish picnic, which will take place at the Gorge on Saturday next. Arrangements have been made with the car company, and tickets, including tea and car fares, may be obtained from the members of the Ladies' Aid, guilds, Sunday school teachers, the rector, or Mr. T. W. Palmer, 70 North Clifton street. A large attendance is expected of those wishing for an afternoon's enjoyment in pleasant company at this ideal place for such a purpose. The proceeds will be devoted to the debt on the Sunday school building.

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44 GOVERNMENT STREET

Festival of Ascension—Thursday in this week being the Festival of the Ascension, there will be celebration of Holy Communion at 8 and 11 and choral Evensong at 8 p. m. at Christ church cathedral.

School Board—A special meeting of the board of school trustees will be held tomorrow evening, when the action of the city council in cutting down the appropriation asked for by the trustees in their estimates will be discussed and other matters of importance be considered.

Open Air Meetings—The Victoria Socialists have decided to discontinue the use of the Edison theatre for the summer and carry on the propaganda by means of open air meetings in the city and also in the parks on Sunday afternoons. In the event of a visit from an outside speaker the time and place of the lecture will be advertised.

Women's Auxiliary—The regular meeting of the Women's Auxiliary Society, P. R. J. hospital, will be held on Tuesday next at the city hall at 2:30 p. m. promptly. As this is the last meeting before the annual meeting and delivery wagon, which was easily carried off by Mr. W. Mable, the carriage builder on Johnson street, which for elegance and durability combined would be hard to beat. It may be remembered that at the provincial exhibition Mr. Mable's work has mostly always held first place.

Sale of Work—The members of Christ church auxiliary have decided to hold a garden fête and sale of work on Tuesday, June 13, at "Bishopsclose," Burdette avenue. Besides the work, tea, candy and flower stalls and various other attractions will be offered. A meeting will be held on Friday, June 9, to complete all arrangements and to receive the work in the hands of the members.

Excursion From Bellingham—A smaller number than was anticipated took advantage of the excursion from Bellingham yesterday, on the steamer Princess Victoria—but 350 coming over. Weather conditions being ideal the trip was much enjoyed. The major number of the visitors took in the bull game, others contenting themselves with an inspection of the various charming points around the city.

EVERYBODY DELIGHTED.

Newbro's Herpicide Destroys the Dandruff Germ and Prevents Baldness.

Quinine and rum and a whole lot of other things, are pleasant to rub on the scalp after washing it free of dandruff, but not the prevention of the general run cures dandruff and falling hair. It is necessary to kill that germ, to be permanently cured of dandruff, and to stop falling hair, Newbro's Herpicide will positively destroy that germ, so that there can be no more dandruff, and so that the hair will grow luxuriantly. "Destroy the cause, and you remove the effect." Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., 1001 C. H. Howe Bldg. Co., 95 Government street, Special Agents.

Watches—When it comes to watches, Stoddart, the big jewelry man on Yates street, can supply you with any grade and any price suitable to your pocket-book. Examine his ad. elsewhere in this issue for quotations, etc.

It Comes Expensive—Ice cream comes high if you have to buy it all. You will find it easy to make good ice cream if you use the White Mountain Freezer (the triple motion kind). They are simple to operate and hard to wear out. Prices \$2.50 and up, at R. A. Brown & Co.'s, 80 Douglas street.

Reliable and artistic vehicles for the little folks. We have handled Whitney Go-Carts for many years, but were never so well satisfied with a new design as we are now. This famous factory has surpassed itself and produced the swiftest line of carriages we have yet seen—reed and cane, materials which themselves to great beauty of design, are still the most popular. We would like you to look over this handsome collection—if you are interested—you will be pleased. Ask for one of the recently issued folders of the twenty-five latest designs of carts and containing much information about paraisols, tires, etc., Weiler Bros.

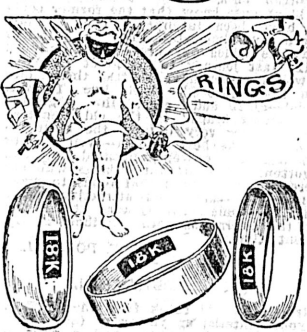
Keep Cool! by having some pretty striped awnings put on your windows. We make them in all sizes. Estimates cheerfully given. Smith & Champion, 100 Douglas street.

Carpets Cleaned by our electric carpet cleaning machine last longer and look better than those cleaned in any other way. Price per yard for cleaning 5 cents; for laying, 5c. Smith & Champion.

All kinds of upholstery and mattress repairing. Prices right. Smith & Champion.

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Take your choice of any ring in our store, and you will not regret it; they are all beautiful, and any one of them would give pleasure to the person who received it. We have ENGAGEMENT RINGS, BIRTHDAY RINGS, WEDDING RINGS, and rings for all purposes, at very moderate prices, from \$1.00 up. We have just put in stock some fine diamond rings set with five, three and single stones, which are worth looking at, as the prices are very low.

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First Prize—Among the prizes offered for the finest carriages and wagons in the parade on Victoria Day was one for the best and handsomest rubber-tired delivery wagon, which was easily carried off by Mr. W. Mable, the carriage builder on Johnson street, which for elegance and durability combined would be hard to beat. It may be remembered that at the provincial exhibition Mr. Mable's work has mostly always held first place.

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